



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Amended (NE)
S. Byrd
2/25/02

Application of: MESSERLI *et al.*

Application No.: 09/497,123

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: February 3, 2000

Examiner: Brian E. Pellegrino

For: END MEMBER FOR A BONE
FUSION IMPLANT

Attorney Docket No.: 8932-114

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

02/04/2002 SBRUCE 00100001 111156 00100001 111156
01 FC:115 In response to the Final Office Action dated October 26, 2001 and pursuant to 37

C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-identified application. Entry of this amendment should place the present application in condition for allowance or at least in better condition for appeal. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the following:

In the Claims:

~~Please amend claims 1 to read as follows:~~

1. (Twice Amended) An end member for use with an implant for fusing bone comprising:
- a first portion with a top surface adopted and configured to engage the bone and having a perimeter edge and a first channel extending across at least a portion of the top surface from the perimeter edge for receiving a surgical instrument;
 - a second portion configured and dimensioned to be inserted into a bore of the implant;
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